(*b*) The cess cannot be levied compulsorily. Whenever the raiyats agree to pay the cess, Government have no objection to undertake the maintenance of the tank.

SUBJECT No. 116.

Distribution of water in tanks to be entrusted to the Irrigation department.

Mr. Ramanuja Iyengar, Gubbi taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Owing to repeated failure of rains and the scanty dry crops famines are on the increase. Even when tanks fill there is no adequate outturn of wet crops. The raiyats in America have far advanced in the principles of preserving water in their reservoirs for use in time of scarcity. In the Punjab and Chenaub the Irrigation department distributes water equitably. It may be ascertained what the yield there is for one cubic foot of water supplied, and that would show the benefit of entrusting the equitable distribution of water to the Irrigation department. It would be more profitable both to the people and Government if the same is entrusted to the Department of Public Works, (Irrigation department), than to the ignorant *nirgantis*. The raiyats under some of the tanks are willing to pay the acreage cess and it is prayed that early orders may be passed in the matter.

Mr. Amblé Annaiya Pandit.—A nala manegar should not be entrusted with the work of distributing water. This should be done either by the Public Works Department or left to the raiyats themselves.

Reply of Government.—Under consideration.

SUBJECT No. 117.

Removal of silt of the malnad tanks.

Mr. Yagayyana Krishnappa, Sagar taluk.

Summary of discussion.—It is prayed that the work of removing the silt of malnad tanks may be undertaken by Government early, as large deposits of silt are annually received in the tanks which the raiyats are unable to remove. The attempts made in a few places by the raiyats to remove the accumulated silt to set free the underground springs have been successful. But owing to sparse population the entire work cannot be undertaken by the raiyats. Mere improvement of the tank bund will not be of much use unless the silt is periodically removed.

Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao.—The closing of the springs is due to the silt being washed down. This should be prevented.

Reply of Government.—The Superintending Engineer is investigating the question and the cases of tanks to which the representation refers may be brought to his notice.

SUBJECT No. 118.

Conservation of tank water.

Mr. Huchveeregowda, Gubbi taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Lands situated at a distance of even 3 or 4 miles from the sluices of tanks, such as Amrut Mahal kaval lands and lands of villages other than those in which the tank is situated, have been taken up for cultivation. Though these lands are assessed at low rates, even in years when the tanks fill, the entire atchkat cannot be irrigated, but water is granted to these remote

lands to the detriment of the *dhruvapairu* bagayet lands, and much difficulty is experienced for drinking water, for men and cattle. A sufficient quantity should always be conserved in tanks for these purposes. This refers especially to the Kadaba tank.

Reply of Government.—It is under consideration to improve the existing system of maintenance of tanks and distribution of water. The Kadaba tank will be one of the tanks in connection with which the scheme will be tried.

SUBJECT No. 119.

Revision of atchkat of tanks.

Messrs. Agali Venkatramiah, Sira taluk, and Honnalige Gowda, Gubbi taluk, and H. Gundappa, Kunigal taluk.

Summary of discussion.—Some alteration in the extent of tank atchkats is required as many tank beds are raised by silt and do not allow tanks to hold a sufficient quantity of water to irrigate their entire extent. It is prayed that the present atchkat of these tanks may be revised. Such revision may be done during the resurvey operations.

Reply of Government.—If a landholder agrees to any wet land being converted into dry on the score of its not receiving a proper supply of water, the Survey department are prepared to reclassify the land.

SUBJECT No. 120.

Encroachment of tank beds.

Mr. Hutchveeregowda, Gubbi taluk.

Summary of discussion:—It appears that certain fields in tank beds which are declared by the Public Works Department as liable to submersion and set apart as lands that are not to be given out for cultivation have been disposed of clandestinely for the same purpose. It appears that these lands are sometimes disposed of to persons on condition of their relinquishing them whenever there are *darkhasts* for these lands for cultivation. It is also seen that holders of lands adjoining tank beds have not only encroached upon the tank beds but have also changed the boundary marks. When this subject was moved in 1909, it was ordered by the Deputy Commissioner that enquiry would be made in the case of the Kadaba tank, as an experiment. Nothing has been done further. If a general order be issued by Government for suitable action being taken in the matter, Government may derive some income thereby.

Reply of Government.—Will be enquired into.

SUBJECT No. 121.

Hot weather supply.

(a) Messrs. Bore Gowda, Yedatore taluk, and Seshachala Jois, Bannur Municipality.

Summary of discussion.—(a) In consequence of the stoppage of hot weather supply in all channels for the last five or six years, the sugarcane, green and black gram, and ragi cultivation has suffered much, resulting in serious loss and inconvenience to the raiyats. Pray that one week's supply every month be ordered during that season under the old Proceedings and the existing scarcity of drinking water alleviated.